

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1-24. (Cancelled)

25-38. (Cancelled)

39. (New) A fusion protein comprising a non-toxin protein sequence and at least a portion of the Clostridium botulinum type E toxin, said portion selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:50 and SEQ ID NO:52.

40. (New) The fusion protein of claim 39, wherein the portion of the Clostridium botulinum type E toxin sequence comprises amino acids 835-1250 of SEQ ID NO:50.

41. (New) The fusion protein of claim 39, wherein the non-toxin protein sequence comprises a poly-histidine tract.

42. (New) The fusion protein of claim 41, which comprises amino acids 827-1252 of SEQ ID NO:50.

43. (New) The fusion protein of claim 39, wherein the fusion protein is substantially endotoxin-free.

44. (New) A host cell containing a recombinant expression vector, the vector encoding a protein comprising at least a

portion of a Clostridium botulinum type E toxin protein sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:50 and SEQ ID NO:52, and wherein the host cell is capable of expressing the protein as a soluble protein in the host cell at a level greater than or equal to 0.75% of the total cellular protein.

45. (New) The host cell of claim 44, wherein the portion of the toxin comprises amino acids 830-1250 of SEQ ID NO:50.

46. (New) The host cell of claim 44, wherein the protein comprises amino acids 827-1252 of SEQ ID NO:50.

47. (New) The host cell of claim 44, wherein the host cell is capable of expressing the protein in the host cell at a level greater than or equal to 20% of the total cellular protein.

48. (New) A fusion protein, comprising at least a portion of Clostridium botulinum C fragment of a Clostridium botulinum type E toxin linked to a poly-histidine tag.